

TWO NEW MITES OF THE GENUS AEROPPIA
(OPPIIDAE: ORIBATEI: ACARINA)

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In 1961 Hammer described the genus *Aeroppia* and two new species from specimens taken in South America. At this time she also included *Dameosoma vacuum* Berlese in this genus. Later in 1962 she mentioned still another form but did not describe it for lack of sufficient material. Recently in a collection of oribatid mites received from Dr. Donald De Leon of Erwin, Tennessee, were two new species of this interesting genus. A short description of these new forms follows.

***Aeroppia insularis*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 4)

Diagnosis: Interlamellar hairs longer than body setae; a distinct sclerotized ridge posterior to rostral hairs; and a broken, sclerotized ridge anterior to the dorsosejugal suture.

Description: Color yellowish; propodosoma wider than long; rostral hairs located dorsally and extends over tip of rostrum by more than half their length; lamellar hairs long, weakly setose, located dorsally; a distinct, sclerotized ridge posterior to the rostral hairs; pseudostigmata circular with a distinct, anterior point; interlamellar hairs weakly setose, about one-fourth longer as well as heavier than body setae, located medial to pseudostigmata; exobothridial hairs longer and stouter than body setae; a distinct, broken row of sclerotizations anterior to the curved dorsosejugal suture; some faint, sclerotized circles between the pseudostigmata.

Hysterosoma more elongate-oval than other species of this genus; body setae very weakly setose, of about equal diameter throughout their length with a blunt tip and located as shown in figure 4; inflated setae on posterior end of hysterosoma very large and distinct.

Size: 585 μ \times 360 μ .

Type Locality: Two specimens (Coll. No. 2653) from *Artocarpus communis* at San Cristobal, Dominican Republic, 9 November 1963 by Donald De Leon.

Discussion: This species appears to be near *A. peruensis* Hammer but is much larger, has much longer and heavier interlamellar hairs, and lacks the "densely punctate" hysterosoma.

***Aeroppia clavatum*, n. sp.**

(Fig. 5)

Diagnosis: Pseudostigmatic organs club-shaped, as long or longer than interlamellar hairs.

Description: Color yellowish; propodosoma about as long as wide; rostral hairs located dorsally and extends over tip of rostrum by about one-half their length; lamellar hairs located dorsally, much larger than other body setae; interlamellar hairs with small insertions, as long or longer than pseudostigmatic organs;

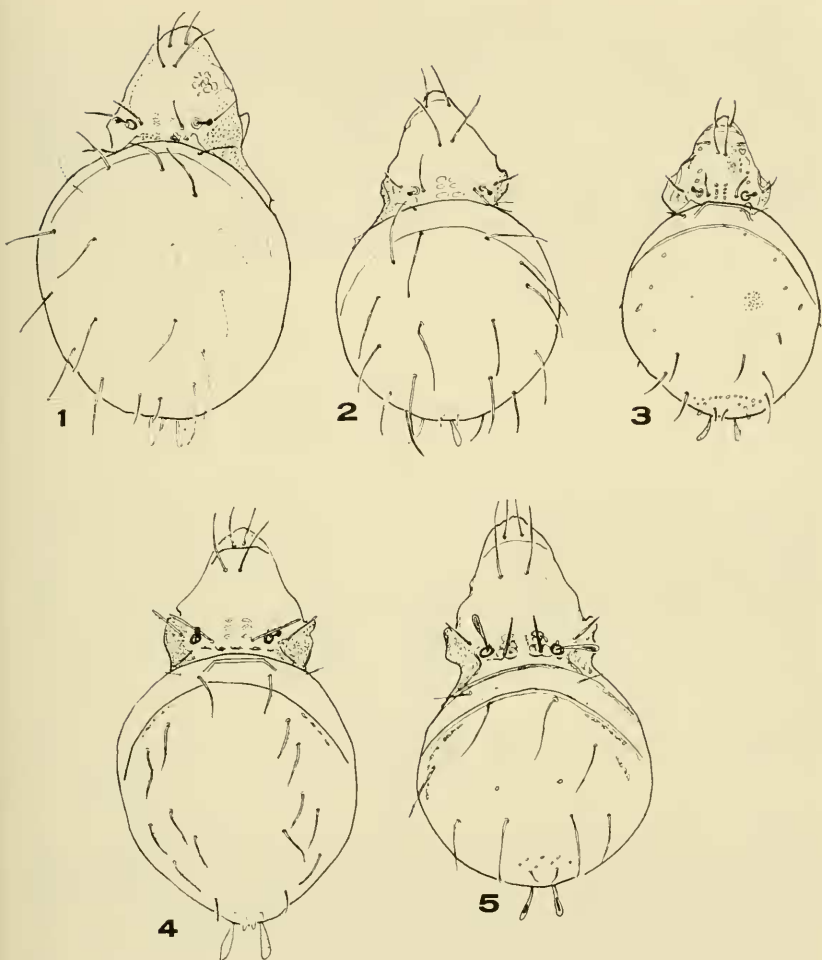


Fig. 1, *Aeroppia columbiana* Hammer (After Hammer, 1961); fig. 2, *A. vacuum* (Berl.) (After Hammer, 1961); fig. 3, *A. perucensis* Hammer (After Hammer, 1961); fig. 4, *A. insularis* n. sp.; fig. 5, *A. clavatum* n. sp.

pseudostigmata with small, sclerotized, anterior points; pseudostigmatic organs club-shaped with rounded heads and small petioles; sclerotizations of irregular circles near base of interlamellar hairs.

Hysterosoma round with body setae as shown in figure 5; small areae porosae along margins and near posterior end of body.

Size: 375 μ \times 240 μ .

Type Locality: Holotype and one paratype (Coll. No. 2558) from *Duguetia neglecta* at Nature Reserve, near 24 mile post, Bartica-Potaro Road, British Guiana, 24 October 1963 by Donald De Leon.

Additional Specimens: All specimens were collected by Dr. Donald De Leon from the Nature Reserve which is a mile square piece of virgin rain-forest about one mile from the 24 mile post, Bartica-Potaro Road, British Guiana. These specimens with the collector's numbers and the vegetation on which they were found are listed as follows: Three specimens (Coll. No. 2584) from *Licania laxiflora* on 28 October 1963; 2 specimens (Coll. No. 2582) from *Anaxagoria dolichocarpa* on 28 October 1963; 2 specimens (Coll. No. 2599) from *Licania* sp. on 31 October 1963; 1 specimen (Coll. No. 2575) from *Tetragastris hostmanni* on 28 October 1963.

Discussion: The small collection of *A. clavatum* n. sp. shows some variation in the length of body setae and the amount of sclerotizations near tectopodia II. The long, club-shaped pseudostigmatic organs, however, seem to be constant and characteristic of this species.

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**ECOLOGICAL NOTES ON SOME SPHAEROCERIDAE REARED FROM
SNAILS, AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE PUPARIUM OF
COPROMYZA (APTERINA) PEDESTRIS MEIGEN¹
(DIPTERA)**

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Dead and decaying snails are fed upon by larvae of several families of Diptera, including the Sphaeroceridae. Although the larvae of some Sphaerocerids which feed in putrifying snails are known to develop also on other dead animals, decaying vegetation, etc., other species may have a more restricted diet. The following questions may be

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